

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 00958 161400Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-10 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-15 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 /111 W
----- 096156

R 161230Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5464

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0958

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, NASA, MA

SUBJ: RENEWAL OF NASA TRACKING STATION AGREEMENT WITH GOMR

REFS: A) STATE 134627; B) TANANARIVE 0870;
C) USIS WIRELESS FILE 12JUL, ITEM AF-36

1. MISSION HAS INTENTIONALLY REFRAINED FROM BRINGING NEWS
(REF C) OF PHASEDOWN NASA FACILITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA TO
ATTENTION GOMR AND MEDIA. OUR RATIONALE IS THAT EARLY
KNOWLEDGE OF PHASEDOWN COULD LEAD GOMR TO UPGRADE IMPORTANCE
THEY BELIEVE USG ATTACHES TO NASA TRACKING STATION IN
MADAGASCAR AND STIFFEN THEIR DEMANDS WHEN TIME COMES SHORTLY
TO NEGOTIATE RENEWAL BILATERAL STATION AGREEMENT.

2. FOR SAME REASON, EMBASSY DOES NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE PHASEDOWN
IN SA SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION FONMIN RATSIRAKA AND
DIRECTOR OF BILATERAL RELATIONS RATSIMANDRESY DURING THIER
FORTHCOMING VISIT TO US. IF, HOWEVER, THEY AWARE OF PHASEDOWN
THROUGH OTHER SOURCES AND CHOOSE TO MENTION IT IN WASH OR LATER
ON HERE, WE BELIEVE MATTER SHOULD BE TREATED FACTUALLY.

MENDENHALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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